

THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

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07.MS.JTC

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F.B.I.S.,
2430 E Street, NW,
Washington 25, D.C.

21st January 1955

Dear Alan,

Many thanks for your letter of 7th January which by a coincidence crossed my signal to you suggesting a meeting of the Joint Co-ordination Committee during March, and I have today sent you a further signal confirming the date of the meeting for 16th March, as agreed between us on our short telephone conversation.

My reason for suggesting a meeting was that I am at present involved in a series of meetings which are anxiously reviewing our budget for 1955/56, from which it is evident that we shall have to suffer a fairly substantial cut in our revenue for next year. There is, as you have probably gathered, a drive going on by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to cut the expenditure of Government departments drastically, and our operations come into review in this context. Furthermore, consideration is being given to our budget on a longer term basis and it seemed to me that a meeting about the middle of March to discuss the position would be very necessary. A date about this time would coincide with a short stay in the United States of Tangye Lean, Assistant Director of External Broadcasting. He will be ending a tour around our various offices in the Commonwealth and elsewhere in New York on 17th March, when he leaves for the U.K., and it seemed convenient that our meeting should be held at a time when he could attend in place of J.B. Clark, who had originally planned to be present. Accordingly Tangye Lean will be present at the formal meeting on the 16th and possibly be available for a preliminary meeting if necessary on the 15th.

For myself, my plans are to travel from here by the "Queen Mary" arriving in New York on the morning of March 14th. I will come through to Washington by the afternoon of that day and will be available thereafter for preliminary meetings as you may wish. I am making arrangements to

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/ sail from New York back to this country on the "United States", which leaves at noon on 24th March. I would very much like to accompany you on a visit to Santa Rosa as you suggest, provided that you feel that this could be done and still enable me to catch the sailing of the "United States" on the 24th. I would suggest, if you agree, that I should get at this end open-dated plane tickets for the plane journey Washington/San Francisco and San Francisco/New York, which would be payable in sterling here, if you would be kind enough to arrange such reservations for me which would fit in with your own plans. Also I / would be most grateful if you would fix the hotel accommodation for me in Washington from 14th March until whatever date we depart for California.

/ There is one other thing which I wonder if it would be possible to arrange, and that is that Tangye Lean will be in San Francisco from 27th February to 3rd March and he would very much like to pay a visit to Santa Rosa if you would agree. I would not propose that anything should necessarily be fixed for this, but I would like to suggest to him that when he is in San Francisco he should make contact with direct and arrange with her a suitable time to go there.

STAT I am not, I am afraid, yet in a position to let you know of any possible retrenchments in the way of coverage which may be forced upon us next year, but as soon as the position is clear I will at once advise you of any proposals which we have to make. At any rate I hope to have a clear picture of the whole situation, both short term and longer term, when we meet in March.

In conclusion, to refer to your letter of 7th January, I am very glad to know that the Cyprus difficulties seem to have cleared, and in particular that the question of the licence has been settled in a manner satisfactory to you.

I am much looking forward to seeing you once more.

Yours sincerely,

John T. Campbell

The British Broadcasting Corporation

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F.B.I.S.,

2430 E Street, NW,

Washington 25, D.C.

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